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Fixing printed textile webs - by applying the fixing agents in foam form

Cellulosic textile webs printed or dyed using the two stage process have their printing ink or dye fixed by applying the required amount of the chemical fixing agent in a foam form.

ADVANTAGES

Amount of chemicals required for fixing is reduced compared to that required in conventional fixing process (eg to 10% of that originally required).

DETAILS

Preferably the webs are treated with an agent which breaks down the foam when it comes into contact with the webs. Webs of cellulosic fibres or of cellulosic/synthetic fibre mixtures can be treated. The dyes are vat, leucoester vat, stabilised azo or reactive dyes. Fixing of inks based on combination of naphtholates and stabilised diazo compounds is effected using a 5% foam solution containing 10% of formic acid in the liquid phase. Foaming agents are selected from triethanolaminalkylsulphate products of formula

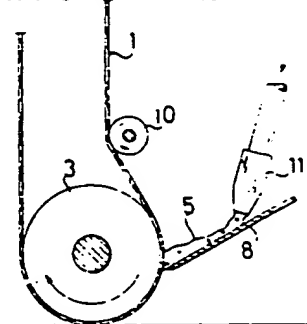
$R-O-SO_3 H \cdot N(CH_2-CH_2-OH)_3$ or alkylpolyglycoether-sulphates of formula

F3-F14, F3-G.

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$R-O-(CH_2-CH_2-O)_n-SO_3 X$, where R is 1-14C alkyl; X is an alkaline metal or ammonium ion and n are integers of 2 to 5. Mixtures of these products may also be used. Preferred solvent is butyldiglycol in conjunction with a fatty alcohol stabiliser. Also described (but not claimed) is an apparatus for applying the foam. (13 pp.)



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